

# GIRL, 15, ENDS LIFE AS OTHER STUDENTS ATTEND SENIOR PROM

PUBLISHED EVERY SUNDAY AND THURSDAY MORNING

## WEATHER

Early morning, low clouds along the coast, clearing before noon. High for the day expected to be about 76.

# TORRANCE HERALD



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10 PAGES

# Oregon Crash Kills Local Couple

## Vacationing Pair Killed in Oregon

Killed instantly Thursday when their auto collided with a careening truck and trailer on an Oregon highway were Dudley C. Fullington, 43, and his wife, Katherine, 39, both of 3128 W. 186th St., it was learned here Friday.

The Fullingtons were on vacation when the accident occurred near Medford, Ore., dis-

patches said. Word from Medford indicated that the Fullington auto was smashed almost head-on by an

unloaded truck and trailer driven by Roylee H. Newsom of Medford.

Newsom said his vehicle veered out of control on the rickety pavement and crashed against the Fullington car. He was not held.

Fullington was crushed behind the steering wheel and Mrs. Fullington was hurled to the pavement, dispatches said.

**New Truck Speeds Mail, Parcel Post Deliveries**

A new parcel delivery truck received this week by the Torrance Post Office will speed parcel post deliveries and box pickups, it was announced yesterday by Mrs. Clara Conner, postmaster.

The new truck is the second of its kind now in service, she said.

## Increase in School Budget Asked By Business Manager

An increase of over \$200,000 in the Torrance Unified School District over that budget adopted for the current fiscal year was asked last week by Emmett Ingram, schools business manager, submitted a tentative budget to the Board of Education.

Totaling \$2,107,778, the budget will be acted upon by the Board at its June 17 meeting. The increased figure was based on Ingram's estimate of a 10 per cent. increase in assessed valuation for the district.

The board, at its regular meeting last week, approved the name of the Evelyn Carr School for a new elementary plant to be constructed soon in North Torrance. Former plans, called for naming it the Alondra School, but a citizens committee asked that the Board consider other names which would not use the name of an area not actually within the Torrance district.

Evelyn Carr, member of the first Torrance Board of Education, was an active leader in the unification of this district when it separated from the Los

angeles system, Board members stated. Another school to be named Howard Wood School, honors another first member of Torrance education boards.

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## THS Coed Kills Self When Kept from Prom

A pretty 15-year-old Torrance High School girl, Vancille Ellaine Silva, despondent because she could not attend the Senior Prom Friday night, died a suicide yesterday morning by swallowing 100 nembutal pills.

Police and physicians at the Harbor General Hospital believe the girl took the pills sometime during the evening, while her fellow classmates were attending the dance.

She was found by her mother, Mrs. Hazel Vancille Russell, of 23017 Doris Way, about 10:20 a.m. yesterday, lying on the bed but still alive.

The attractive sophomore died in her mother's arms before an ambulance arrived.

Police officer Joe Miles of the Torrance Police Department said the girl had left a note blaming her mother for not allowing her to go to the dance. Her mother had taken away Vannie's privileges because she had been cutting her classes at high school.



VANCILLE SILVA ... In Happier Days

**Pill Boxes Found**  
Beside the bed police found two empty pill boxes. One had contained 100 nembutal and aspirin tablets, the other had contained three or four pills of an unknown narcotic dispensed by a Lynwood pharmacy.

At the Harbor General Hospital physicians shot adrenalin directly into the heart and administered artificial respiration for 30 minutes in an attempt to revive the girl.

The body was taken to Stone and Myers Mortuary.

**Brother Finds Girl**  
The girl was first discovered by her 12-year old brother, Richard.

"Mother, Vannie is breathing kind of funny," he told her. She ran into the room to find her

daughter unconscious and breathing erratically. She died without regaining consciousness as her mother knelt on the floor embracing her.

Her mother had placed the girl under restriction when she discovered her daughter was ditching her classes and then signing her step-father's name to excuses for absence.

She had recently been initiated into the Torrance Tri-Hi-Y at the school.

The girl's step father William Russell, is with the Navy Ferry Command somewhere in Germany. Her father is in Vallejo.

**Pleads With Mother**  
Although the girl pleaded with her mother to be allowed to go to the dance with her boy friend, Sid Staxrud, whom she mentioned in the note, her mother told police she refused the request.

"I had told her she couldn't go out for several weeks. I thought that once I had made up my mind I should not weaken and let her go to the dance. I didn't dream she would take it so seriously."

**Peerson Gets A Year For Shooting Wife**  
Lomita motel operator Fay B. Peerson, 44, was sentenced Friday to one year in county jail for shooting his wife, Norma, 38, during an argument in their motel Jan. 3. Probation was denied by Superior Judge Fred Miller.

On May 9 a jury found Peerson guilty of assault with a deadly weapon against his spouse, but found him innocent of a similar charge against her companion, Cecil B. Huffine, 35, of Los Angeles.

According to testimony, Peerson admitted getting into the trunk of his wife's car in Los Angeles and riding to the motel, operated jointly by the Parsons at 2472 W. Pacific Coast Hwy.

The shooting occurred shortly after the trio arrived at the motel.

A final tally of all ballots cast, a figure which would give the exact percentage of vote in the City of Torrance, will not be available until later next week, a deputy registrar claimed.

Since Judge Shidler received a majority of votes cast for Office No. 1, he will be declared elected and sworn in as judge of the recently-created South Bay Municipal Court in early January. The victor of the Willett-Higgins race likewise will be sworn in during January.



**SWEESTAKES . . .** Bill Lytle puts last-minute touch on his display for the public after judges pinned a sweepstakes ribbon on it at the Art, Flower and Hobby Show.

## Throngs Greet Opening of Art, Hobby Exhibit

Nearly 300 persons greeted the opening of the Torrance Arts, Flower and Hobby show here Friday evening as the more than 200 floral and art exhibits were opened to the public following judging.

First-nighters were thrilled with the sparkling array of entries.

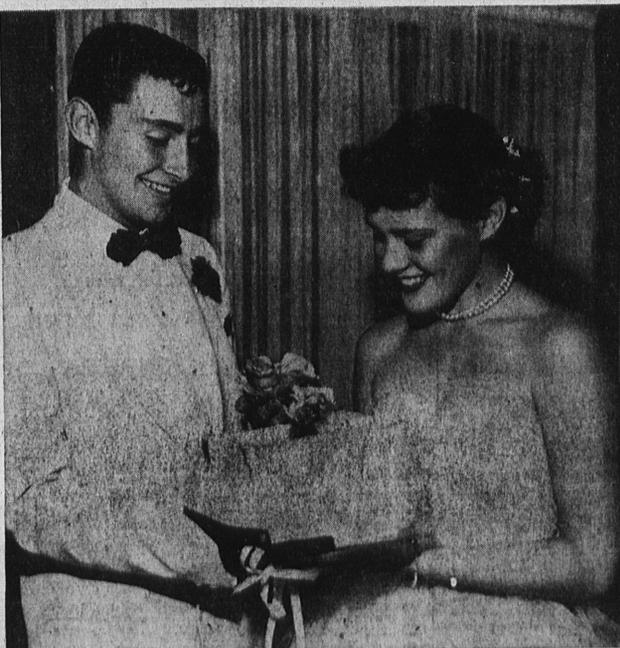
Hobbies, a division of the show under the direction of Mrs. Leo McMillen, ranged from a wood-carving exhibited by James H. Scott, which was awarded a sweepstakes ribbon, to commercial displays of chinillas, pigons and leather carving.

Other hobby displays included textile painting, work of the Torrance Adult Education classes; a salon photo exhibit entered by the Compton Camera Club, collections of Steuben glass, vases, stamps and other items.

Exotic blossoms ranging from a weird-looking and strong-smelling dead horse lily to rare orchids and floral arrangements ranging from 14-inch miniature to gigantic sprays of gladiolus topped off the show to make it one of the best ever presented here.

Sweepstakes among floral entries was awarded to Bill Lytle for his tropical plantings.

The show, being held in the Civic Auditorium, will be open from 12 noon until 9 p.m. today. Admission is free.



**PROM GOERS . . .** The Junior-Senior prom, climaxing the year's activities for Torrance High School students, was held Friday night at El Camino College's Campus Center. Here, Jeanne Whitten unboxes the corsage given her by date, Tom Long, as the couple prepare to leave Jeanne's house for the big evening ahead. The entire picture story of Jeanne and Tom busily getting ready for the prom, a scene reenacted in hundreds of Torrance households, will be portrayed in next Thursday's Herald.

## Postal Workers Receive Pay After a Scare

Torrance postal employees were paid on time, after all.

Pay checks for the employees were issued here Friday when word came that Congress pushed an appropriation bill through both houses and that the President had signed it.

Signature of the President put meaning into pay day again.

The threat of no pay for postal employees arose a few days ago when the fiscal year's payroll was used up early due to general pay rises.

Special funds to continue the year were approved in the legislation passed and signed Thursday.

## Social Period Ends June 12 For Seniors

Ending on June 12 with commencement exercises, 177 Torrance High School seniors will bring to a close their high school careers in a whirlwind finish.

This afternoon at 3 o'clock Baccalaureate services will be conducted in the high school auditorium.

The Senior Breakfast is slated for tomorrow morning.

On Tuesday the seniors and their mothers will gather for the staging of the annual Mothers Tea.

June 11 is Senior and Aug. Call Day.

## House Looted, Shot Gun Taken; Vandals Blamed

Another case of possible malicious mischief by juveniles is being investigated by Torrance police. A home at 18402 Hawthorne Ave. was entered, ink thrown around the walls and the place literally torn up, Walter Patterson, owner, told officers last week.

A 12-gauge shotgun also was stolen from the house, which had been unoccupied for several weeks. Entry apparently was made by breaking out windows in the house.